



King County

Regional Human Services Levy Oversight Board
Veterans Citizen Levy Oversight Board

**Department of
Community and Human Services**

401 5th Avenue, Suite 510
Seattle, WA 98104

Phone: 206.263.9105 FAX: 206.296.0156
TTY RELAY: 711

Regional Human Services and Veterans Citizen Levy Oversight Joint Board Meeting Summary

April 23, 2009 2-4 p.m.

Mercer View Community Center- Seattle

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 2:00 p.m.

Roll Call

A quorum was declared.

Regional Human Services Levy Oversight Board (RHSLOB) Members Present: Joe Ingram (Co-Chair), Kathleen Hadaller, Kevin Bernadt, Kathy Brasch, Edith Nelson

Veterans Citizen Levy Oversight Board (VCLOB) Members Present: Doug Hoople (Chair), Ron Forest, Kathy Lewis, Bill Wood, Roger Welles, Oren Hadaller, Stan Gunno, Gary Kingsbury, Robert Stephens, Jr.

Board Members Excused/Absent: Dorry Elias-Garcia, Francisco Ivarra

County Staff Present: Marcy Kubbs, Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS); Laird Heia, DCHS; Linda Peterson, DCHS; Debora Gay, DCHS; Sherry Hamilton, DCHS; Joel Estey, DCHS

Guests: Metropolitan King County Councilmember Jane Hague; Bellevue City Councilmember Conrad Lee; Mercer Island City Councilmember Mike Cero; Kevin Kelly, Councilmember Hague's office; Meghan Altimore, Hopelink; Marchelle Mertens, St. Andrews Housing Group (SAHG); Rachel Mathison, SAHG; Ann Levine, SAHG; Loran Lichty

Keynote Speaker: Metropolitan King County Councilmember Jane Hague

Douglas Hoople introduced Jane Hague, King County Councilmember from District 6. Councilmember Hague thanked the boards for inviting her to the meeting. She outlined her recent visit to Sacramento for the National Association for Counties meeting where she heard many stories about the lack of assistance for returning veterans. She is pleased

with the support King County is providing its veterans. Many other counties are watching what we are accomplishing through the levy.

Review of Meeting Summary

The draft January, 2009 meeting summary was reviewed and no edits were identified.

ACTION: The January, 2009 meeting summary was approved.

Report from Board Chairs

Chair and Co-Chair Report – Doug Hoople and Joe Ingram

During first quarter 2009 we hosted two Veterans and two Human Services Levy Oversight Board meetings and 5 subcommittee meetings, totaling 94 total hours of volunteer service from our board members. The boards have moved into an oversight phase and heard updates on levy funded projects. These include:

Strategy 2: Ending homelessness through outreach, prevention, permanent supportive housing and employment

- All Request for Proposals (RFP) have been completed under this strategy with the exception of the annual RFP processes for capital housing and supportive housing services which will take place in 2009, 2010 and 2011.
- King County Housing Finance program staff reported 8 projects were awarded levy funds during the 2008 fall funding round bringing the total number of capital projects awarded levy funds to 18.

Activity 2.1(b-2): Mobile Medical Van

The Mobile Medical Project provides outreach to South King County's chronically homeless population and promotes their engagement with primary health care, mental health care, chemical dependency treatment, housing and other services. During the first quarter of 2009, the project held 23 clinics in conjunction with a meal program held at local churches, and served 109 unduplicated patients experiencing homelessness. Board members visiting the clinics have been impressed with the efficiency of the system and commitment of staff.

Activity 4.6: Family Treatment Court

This court program focuses on families who come to the attention of the Washington Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) for child abuse and neglect issues often related to substance abuse, homelessness or other unstable living conditions. It is an alternative to Dependency Court and utilizes therapeutic court practices. The Human Services Levy previously funded this activity for one year and last year, the King County Council directed that the Human Services Levy to fund the Family Treatment Court again. The Mental Illness and Drug Dependency Plan (MIDD) is also contributing funds for this activity.

Communications Committee

The boards are gearing up to provide presentations to the community to raise awareness about how levy funded services and capitol dollars are improving the lives of individuals in our community. To date, presentation materials have been reviewed and board members have accompanied DCHS staff who are presenting to city councils around the region. The board will receive training next week on how to provide presentations.

District Board Members Needed

Both the Veterans Citizen Levy Oversight Board and Regional Human Services Levy Oversight Board need representatives from District 6.

Presentation: Communities Count Initiative

Sandy Ciske, Regional Health Office at Public Health – Seattle & King County, provided an overview of the 2008 Communities County Report. The mission of Communities Count is to provide accurate and timely reports on the conditions of the families and communities in King County. The 2008 report provides a set of 38 indicators that were selected through a process that included broad community input and are used by local and regional governments, and community and private agencies. The Communities Count Initiative is a collaborative effort with many public and private partners and eleven funders.

The report is organized across 6 domains, and indicators are presented by county region and by cities when possible. Sandy presented data on several indicators across the county. In addition, she discussed what affordability looks like in King County and how it compares to previous years. She also discussed foreclosure rates in King County sharing that there is a concentration of high cost (and therefore, high-risk) mortgages assumed in 2004-2006 in King County, in South Seattle and South and Southeast King County.

The Communities Count 2008 report is online at:

http://www.communitiescount.org/index.php?page=contact_us

Panel Discussion: Levy Services in the Community

Several members of the community receiving levy funds provided an update on their programs.

Activity 2.2: Increase permanent housing with support services

Ann Levine, Executive Director of St. Andrew's Housing Group (SAHG), gave an overview of Andrew's Glen (formerly St. Margaret's), an apartment building serving homeless families & individuals, including veterans. A total of \$700,000 of Human Services Levy dollars was leveraged with other fund sources for this project, a 40 unit apartment building with wrap-around services. Twenty of the 40 units will be set-aside for veterans and their family members. They are planning to open in early 2011 with groundbreaking in early fall 2009. Rachel Mathison, Director of Resident Services with SAHG, will be providing the comprehensive services plan for Andrew's Glen.

Activity 2.7: Housing Stability Program

Meghan Altimore, Director of Asset Programs with Hopelink discussed the Housing Stability Program that provides emergency financial assistance to prevent homelessness. She shared data compiled by the Sound Families Initiative, Hopelink and other service providers demonstrating that individuals in these programs are making gains but not getting out of poverty. Providing longer term housing and increased skills for better employment opportunities appears to be the way to help people get ahead.

The levy dollars received by Hopelink are focused on job coaching and job development. Job coaching includes training on resume writing, interviewing, and basic job skills. The program has been in place for 6 months, has helped 33 clients, placing 19 in new jobs.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

Douglas Hoople shared that at recent Strategy 1& 5 committee meetings, Jon Hoskins, DCHS, discussed data that is part of the evaluation report on the status of the Veterans in King County. The final report will be available in the near future.

Marcy Kubbs, DCHS, Levy Board Staff mentioned that there are two upcoming RFP's.

1. Dedicated phone resource for Veterans
2. Outreach to underserved minority and women Veterans

Kathy Brasch mentioned that she, Kathy Hadaller and Kathy Lewis visited a Mobile Medical Van clinic and encouraged others to attend. She reported it was a tremendous opportunity to see how the levy dollars are directly helping people.

Public Comment:

Metropolitan King County Councilmember Julia Patterson, District 5 has developed a flyer on Public Health services.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.